

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 6, 2006***

The meeting was called to order at 6:50pm. Selectmen present were Janet Smith, Wes Moore, and James McIlroy. Others present were Chief Reed, Lt. Gould, Fran Lane, Reuben Hull, Brian Knipstein, Dan and Karen Labrie.

With regard to the expired Dispatch Contract with Newmarket, Chief Reed advised that we can renew the contract for one year instead of five years. This would allow the Town additional time to research other Dispatch Services.

The Chief emphasized that he is very happy with Newmarket Dispatch and that there is no comparison service wise between Rockingham County Dispatch and Newmarket Dispatch. He said that if the Town was to change providers, 911, all alarms, and telephones for the Police, Fire, and Ambulance services would have to be changed. He stated that Rockingham Dispatch cannot hear Newfields Police on their portable radios, where Newmarket will automatically send backup to Newfields for arrests and field sobriety tests. Newfields works with Newmarket and Stratham for mutual aid. These two towns use Newmarket Dispatch. If Newfields changed to Rockingham, there would be a delay in mutual aid because Rockingham Dispatch would have to contact Newmarket with any request.

Janet spoke to other towns currently using Rockingham Dispatch and they are happy with the service. Janet stated that at this time Rockingham Dispatch would not charge the Town any additional fees over and above the county tax already paid by Newfields property owners in their taxes.

Wes volunteered to speak with other Towns about their experiences with Rockingham County Dispatch and will report his findings to the Board.

Wes made a motion to accept the Newmarket Dispatch Contract for one year only. James seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Chief Reed gave his report on the roadside cleanup by the Police Department, the FEMA information for possible reimbursement for flood damage expenditures (a meeting in Newmarket on 6/13/06 which the Chief will attend). He also informed the Board that he received another DUI Grant and asked the Board for authorization to accept it. The Selectmen agreed to accept the Grant.

The DARE Graduation is next week. The graduates will be going to Water Country to celebrate. The Chief asked if he could get a check out of the regular cycle to pay the fees at the park. The Selectmen approved his request.

The “Helping Hands” letter will be sent out to all Newfields residences by the end of this week. This gives residents the opportunity to sign up for special assistance in case of an emergency such as the loss of power in Town or the floods experienced last month.

The Emergency Management Grant Application for \$20,000. was presented for a Selectmen’s signature. Janet signed the application. The funds will be used for cones, sawhorses, a computer, training, and administrative time.

Fran Lane came in and the Board went into a non-public session under RSA91-A3II at 7:20pm. The meeting was re-opened to the public at 7:40pm.

Reuben Hull discussed the letter from the State sent to the Piscassic Road property owner with water runoff issues. The property owner will need to contact the State directly with any further issues. Reuben will send a letter to the property owner and will forward a copy to the Selectmen.

Karen and Dan Labrie were in to be updated by the Selectmen on the water issue on High Rock Lane. Reuben explained the three issues (independent of each other):

1. The cul de sac was raised higher than the original plan. The additional height is actually a better design.
2. The Labrie driveway plans show a driveway culvert and drainage across the front of the property. which has been filled in.
3. On the Connor property, the plans show the foundation drains in the rear. The drains currently flow to the front of the property.

Karen said there is a 4th issue – the Connor driveway is not where it was originally planned and encroaches on the Labrie lot line. She stated that the Connors do not have a driveway culvert either.

The Selectmen emphasized that they are trying to resolve the issue without disturbing the Labrie property. The options to consider are:

1. The Town has some responsibility for the water runoff from the Town owned road.
2. Install a catch basin on the Connor property and have it drain into the cul-de-sac. The cul-de-sac would have to be lowered to accomplish this. This would require part of the road to be dug up and patched.
3. The property owner is responsible for the foundation drain issue.

The Labries stated that they do not want water culverts on both sides of their home. They already have one water culvert, but are concerned a 2nd would jeopardize their home. Karen asked if a berm could be installed on the side of the

roadway to prevent the water from collecting on the Connor property. Karen stated that there used to be a berm and it seemed to work.

Brian Knipstein stated that the Town, the Connors, and the Labries have to agree on a long term fix for the road runoff. He stated that the Connors are responsible for the repairs to their foundation drain.

The Selectmen will have to discuss the various remedies to the situation, obtain estimates for the work required for each option, and make a formal decision. They will keep all parties informed, but the decision will not be made overnight.

Wes made a motion to accept the Minutes of the May 30th, 2006 Selectmen's Meeting with minor changes. James seconded the motion and it passed with Wes and James in favor. Janet abstained because she was not at the meeting.

Brian Knipstein will try to reach Wes Moore when the tree company is coming to look at the trees on the Town Hall property. Wes would like to discuss various options and obtain estimates for each of the options.

With regard to the Salt Shed Easement – Reuben will get the additional measurement information needed. Brian would like the storage dates changed to May 1st to October 1st. This would allow for late spring and early winter needs of the Highway Department.

Brian Knipstein received an estimate of \$3,600. to remove the brick walkway and stairs at the Town Hall and to replace the brick with asphalt. The granite at the edge of the stairs would be kept in place. The Selectmen feel that the Town would prefer that the brick remain. They asked that the brick on the stairs be re-set instead of removed and the walkway remain in place. Brian will return to the Selectmen with an estimate for this work.

Brian will have lines painted on the Town Hall Parking Lot along the grass area and have the handicapped insignia painted in the appropriate area.

It was decided that the handicapped ramps to be installed at the back of Town Hall should be paid out of the ADA Fund and the other items should be paid from the Sidewalk Fund.

Brian and Reuben will get together to decide on the new handicapped ramp for Town Hall. The Selectmen stressed that we need to be in compliance with ADA requirements and that the next election is in September, 2006.

Reuben will set up a meeting with himself, Brian, and the property owners affected by the sidewalk project from the Newfields General Store to the rail-road bridge. This will be an informational meeting.

With regard to the Halls Mill Road hammerhead, Reuben's research indicates it was not intended to be used for a school bus or truck turnaround. It is only for cars. Halls Mill Road is now a designated Scenic Road. Reuben will go back to the plan to make sure all terms of the agreement have been complied with. The Selectmen discussed the fact that if a parking lot is to be built in this area, it will be built by the Rockingham Land Trust and will be located on the Piscassic Greenway property.

Reuben mentioned that the Cole subdivision will be discussed at the next Planning Board Meeting. Janet indicated that she will attend that meeting.

With regard to the Les Case property – there is no clear title on the mill parcel and therefore the Planning Board cannot act on any changes to the property.

Janet made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 16th meeting. James seconded and the motion passed with Janet and James in favor. Wes abstained as he did not attend that meeting.

The Selectmen will meet at 8:00am on June 7th to walk through the Old Post Office building.

The Selectmen signed the following items: checks, a Timber Tax Levy, a Library Trustee appointment (Michael Woodworth), the DRA Inventory of Taxable Property form, and a Land Use Change Tax form.

The Selectmen reviewed and discussed: the Salt Shed Easement, the correspondence from Fran Lane with regard to the noise complaint, and the Exeter-Hampton Court Meeting Report. Janet agreed to call the property owner with the potential junkyard as we have not had a reply to the letter sent last month. The letter from Jeb Bradley was read.

Wes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50pm. Janet seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer